

E1-6970

To: David Navecky  
STB Finance Docket No. 35095  
Surface Transportation Board  
395 E Street, SW  
Washington, DC 204023

March 14, 2008

Re: Port MacKenzie Alaska Railroad Extension

I am writing in opposition to the railroad segment denoted as Conn 3 on figures 1 and 2 below.

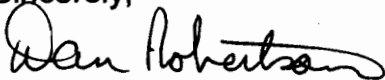
I am an owner of one the agricultural parcels that will be adversely impacted by this route, specifically the half section of land northwest of the Ayrshire and Farmers road intersection (see figure 2). I was not notified by the Matanuska Susitna Borough or the Alaska Railroad of the planning process or public meetings regarding the rail extension, but eventually found out via word of mouth from other disgruntled landowners in this area.

The Carpenter Lake area indicated by the red oval on figure 2 has a number of year round and recreational homes and cabins, small farms, and at least one small business requiring large undeveloped acreage. It is a relatively quiet semi rural area. Carpenter Lake public access provides a pleasant picnic and fishing area.

A railroad routed through this area is inconsistent with the current area land usage. The noise, emissions, dust, possibly herbicides, etc, associated with a railroad would destroy the aesthetic rural nature of the area. Land values seem likely to decline far below whatever right of way reimbursement might occur. Small businesses in the area, would likely be devastated by the Conn 3 route, forcing these people out of business. The maps available via the portmacrail website do not even seem to indicate that there are agricultural parcels impacted by the Conn 3 route.

There seem to be several other viable alternatives. I would strongly prefer that some route other than Conn 3 be selected.

Sincerely,



Daniel B. Robertson  
11301 Snowline Drive  
Anchorage Ak, 99507

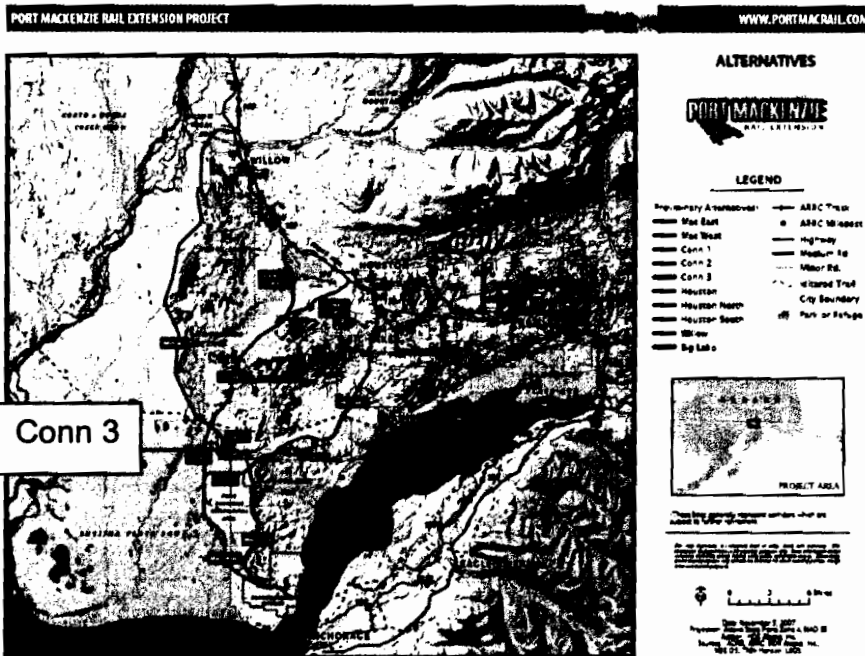


Figure 1. Point McKenzie railroad extension alternatives

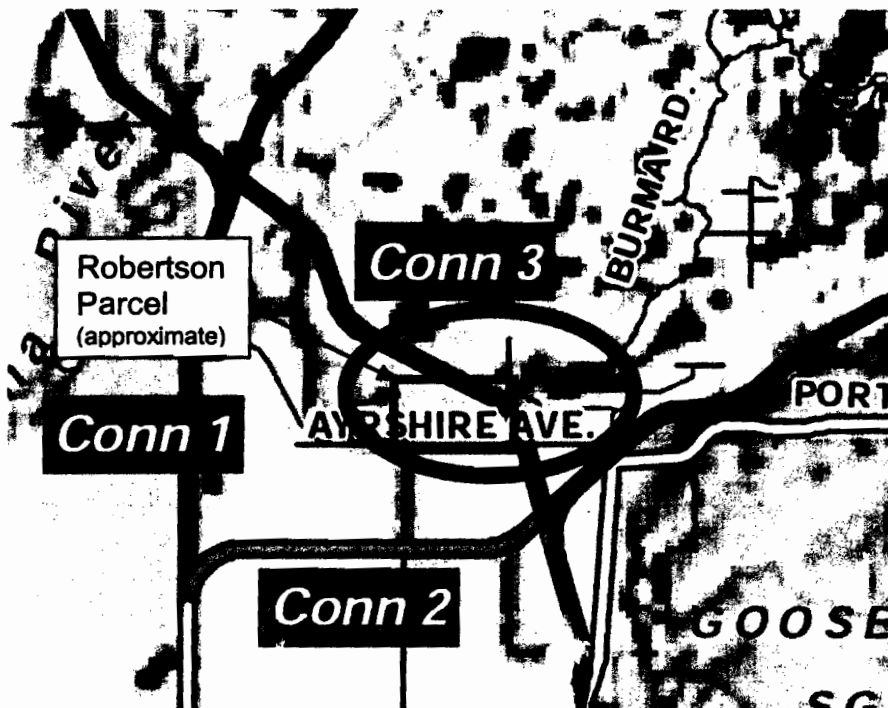


Figure 2. Conn 3 route noise, dust, & emissions will adversely impact many private homes, cabins, small farms, businesses in the area indicated by the red oval.